



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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Minutes 03-18-2009

MEETING MINUTES MARCH 18, 2009

Members Present: Barbara Cutler, Janice Dallas, Kerrie Fallon, Susan James, Barbara Jones, Kevin O'Brien

Members Absent: Lin Baker, Maureen St. Hilaire

Other Present: Jane Howard, Vision 2020 Standing Committee
Heidi Hample, Disability Advocate
Paolo Marinelli, Disability Advocate
Gregory Ames, Massachusetts Placement Coordinator
Jack Jones, Director of Housing & Disability Programs

Meeting Minutes of February 18, 2009:

The meeting minutes were tabled until the April 2009 meeting.

April 2, 2009 Job Fair:

Greg said that the following employers would be participating in the Job Fair. Adecco, State of Massachusetts, Eliot Community Human Services, Hallmark Health, Home Depot, McLean Hospital, National car Rental, Odyssey Systems Consulting, Operation Able, Vinfen, Spaulding Hospital, US Census, A place To Grow Chilcare, Town of Arlington, Cambridge Savings Bank, Mellon Bank, Mt. Auburn Hospital and Aetrotek. Greg said that he expects a very large turnout of consumers. Jack Jones said that Brian Sullivan, Town manager, has agreed to provide ten parking permits for parking on Mass. Avenue. In addition the owner of the Hodgdon Noyes property has agreed to allow parking on their property at 835 Mass. Avenue. Jack Jones said that he would have signage for the Hodgdon Noyes site indicating that parking is available at the site for the Job fair. Jane Howard said that signage would be placed in front of the Town Hall one week prior to the Job Fair. Greg said that he would arrange for people to gather information about consumers at the entrance to the Town Hall during the Job fair.

Report to Town Meeting:

Jack Jones said that the Commission has over the past three years presented a report to Town Meeting. The report explains the accomplishments and future plans of the Commission. At the April Meeting ideas should be presented for writing this years report.

Warrant Articles:

Jack Jones said that two warrant articles have been submitted for this year Town Warrant. The two warrant articles are about having dog parks gated if dog parks are approved and requesting \$10,000 for the Commission to be used to improve access within the community. Jack Jones said that Barbara Jones wrote an excellent letter that was read at the Selectmen's Meeting addressing the concerns about unleashed dogs if ungated dog parks are approved attacking service dogs. Barbara Cutler said that the Commission has requested a financial appropriation in order to pay the cost to purchase compliance guides, printing other publications, conference fees and consulting fees.

Curb Cuts:

Jack Jones said that the Engineering Department has prepared a bid for curb cut ramp work.

Mass. Avenue Corridor Project:

Kevin O'Brien said that 25% of the plan is nearly completed. Kevin said that there still remains some issues of concern that will need to be addressed before the 25% plan is submitted to Mass. Highway. Barbara Jones said that no bricks should be used on sidewalks and that the plan has too few traffic signals.

Mass. Legislative Reception:

Barbara Cutler said that the Arlington Commission was the only Commission that sponsored the Developmental Disabilities Legislative Reception.

Other Business:

Barbara Cutler said that the Commission should send a thank you letter to the Recreation Commission for supporting the placement of handicapped parking spaces next to four Arlington parks.

Heidi Hample said that she has invited the Chair of the Watertown Commission to talk at the Arlington Disability Commission May 20 meeting regarding emergency preparedness.

Jack Jones said that the League of Woman Voters has invited the Commission to talk at their April 3, 2009 luncheon.

Barbara Cutler said that she receives about one letter a month thanking the Arlington Disability Commission for supporting the clearing of snow from the Donald R. Marquis Minuteman Trail.

Jack Jones said that the Arlington Soccer Club was discussing the possibilities of installing temporary toilet facilities that would not be accessible at fields where soccer games are played. The Disability Commission agreed that this issue should be addressed.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 5:56 P.M.